

**REMARKS**

Please reconsider and allow this application.

A further proposed correction to Figure 8 was filed herein on August 6, 2002.

Amended claim 29 adapts the Examiner's suggestion, whereby claims 25, 26 and 29-32 are allowable.

Please enter amended claims 1, 11, 23 and 29 for purposes of appeal. The amended claims include language from pending claims, whereby neither new matter nor new issues are raised. It is respectfully submitted these claims would, upon entry, reduce, if not overcome, the rejections outstanding.

The number of claims is reduced since claims 24, 27, 28 and 36 would be canceled upon entry of this Amendment.

The claims are novel and unobvious over Kuwazuru (USP 4,579,774), Steward (USP 4,211,590), Stamper (USP 4,986,860), Honda (USP 4,278,728) and Paddock (USP 4,440,825). Applicants repeat and, for the sake of brevity, incorporate remarks of record as to the references.

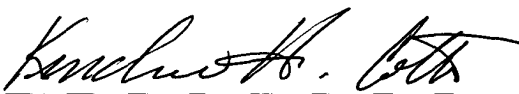
Applicants submit, respectfully, the Examiner has inadvertently mis-construed the Paddock reference. ABS is a rubber-like material, and substrates of ABS are not outer layers. Solid substrates of ABS are not glue. The AES layer of Paddock is "a graft copolymer of resin-forming monomers on an EPM [ethylene-propylene monomer] or EPDM [ethylene, propylene diene monomer] spine," see Paddock, column 1, lines 5-8; column 2, lines 59-60. The AES layer is not the outer layer.

Claims 2, 25; 9-11; 9 and 23; and 10-11 plus 13-15 define unobvious inventions over, respectively, Akimoto plus Steward or Stamper plus Fay; Akimoto plus Fay; or Akimoto and Steward or Stamper, further in view of Fay. Applicants rely upon prior remarks, for the sake of brevity. It is noted however, that soft resilient materials such as a liner for a camper top are not structural composites.

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to re-join claims 16-22. Absent rejoinder, the claims may be canceled per an Examiner's Amendment to pass this case to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

By: 

Kendrew H. Colton  
Registration No. 30,368

Fitch, Even, Tabin & Flannery  
1801 K Street, N.W.  
Suite 401L  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1201  
Telephone No. (202) 419-7000  
Facsimile No. (202) 419-7007

**APPENDIX**

Amendments to the claims:

Claims 24, 27, 28 and 36 are canceled.

1. (Amended) A multi-layer composite structure, comprising:  
an outer layer of acrylic; and  
an acrylic foam core attached to at least a portion of said outer layer of acrylic,  
wherein said composite structure comprises a boat deck or hull, and wherein said composite is formed while avoiding the use of styrene.

11. (Amended) A multi-layer structure, comprising:  
an extruded outer layer of acrylic;  
an acrylic foam core attached at a first surface to said outer layer by an acrylic glue;  
and  
an inside layer of acrylic attached to a second surface of said foam core by an acrylic glue,  
wherein said composite structure comprises a boat, deck, and said composite is formed while avoiding the use of styrene.

23. (Amended) A multi-layer composite structure, comprising:  
an outer layer of acrylic and a polyvinylchloride material; and  
a foam core attached to at least a portion of said outer layer, said foam core being comprised of an acrylic and a polyvinylchloride material, [;]  
wherein said outer layer is attached to said foam core by an acrylic adhesive, and said composite structure comprises a boat hull or boat deck.

29. (Amended) The multi-layer composite according to claim 25 or 26, wherein said composite comprises a boat hull, a boat deck cooler, a cooler or a camper top.